




**STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION OF MENTAL RETARDATION SERVICES
ANDREW JACKSON BUILDING, 15th FLOOR
500 DEADERICK STREET
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243**

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Providers
FROM: Stephen H. Norris 
DATE: October 24, 2007
SUBJECT: Cost Review Initiative

The DMRS mission is to provide leadership in the development and maintenance of a system that offers a continuum of services and support for Tennesseans with intellectual disabilities.

In recent weeks I have implemented significant organizational restructuring of the Tennessee Division of Mental Retardation Services to foster some new and innovative positive system change initiatives. Proficient stewardship of resources is essential to developing, nurturing and sustaining a service delivery system capable of supporting the needs of Tennesseans currently receiving services from DMRS and others who may be in need of services now and in the future.

One of the positive system change initiatives DMRS is undertaking is a review of the service authorization system to ensure that our limited dollars are used in the most cost effective way. The Regional Offices have begun conducting reviews of annual ISPs and ISP amendments to ensure that service approvals are appropriate for the needs of the person.

The purpose of the cost review is to determine how best to meet the needs of individuals in the most cost effective way. Often this will not result in a reduction in service, but should that occur, a notice of appeal rights will be issued in compliance with the Grier Consent Decree.

Should you have any questions regarding the DMRS Cost Review Initiative, please contact your Regional Office Administrative Director:

Katherine Marshall, WTRO Administrative Director
Carolyn Lantz, MTRO Administrative Director
Debbie Norris, ETRO Administrative Director

Your partnership in supporting positive system change initiatives is appreciated.

SHN/RS

Cc: Fred Hix
Debbie Payne
Laura Doutre
DMRS Directors